

REMARKS

The Examiner has allowed Claims 22-34. The Examiner is thanked for such allowance.

The Examiner has again rejected Claims 1-18 and 20-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baldwin, U.S. Patent 5,764,228, in view of Chan et al., U.S. Patent 6,163,837, Brethour et al., U.S. Patent 6,577,316, and Huff et al., U.S. Patent 6,288,723. Applicant again respectfully disagrees with such rejection.

In applicant's previous response to office action, applicant argued that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the present invention was made to combine the teachings of Huff, Brethour and Chan into the programmable pipeline graphics processing of Baldwin, since they were in *non-analogous* arts (i.e. graphics card format conversion vs. programmable vertex processing vs. programmable pixel processing). In the Examiner's latest response to such arguments, the Examiner asserts that pixel processing and vertex processing are part of graphics processing and both are in the same graphics processing art.

First, applicant notes that the Examiner has not addressed a significant component of applicant's previous arguments. Specifically, applicant argued that graphics card format conversion is *non-analogous* with respect to programmable vertex/pixel processing, *in addition to the fact that pixel processing* is *non-analogous* with respect to vertex processing, as addressed by the Examiner.

Moreover, it appears that the Examiner has broadened the description of the arts of Huff, Brethour and Chan to the point that they share some common aspects (i.e. graphics processing) with the primary reference of Baldwin. Applicant asserts that this type of analysis is improper. Of course, every invention has, at the broadest level, something common with another. However, the cruxes and fields of the Huff, Brethour and Chan references are clearly vastly departed and *non-analogous*, since applicant has clearly shown the vastly different problems that pixel and vertex processing addresses with respect to graphics card format conversion, etc.

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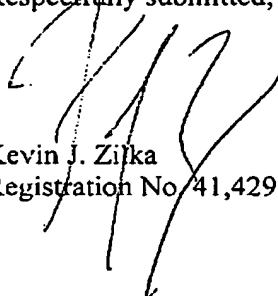
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Nevertheless, in the spirit of expediting the prosecution of the present application and bringing closure to prosecution of this application, applicant has amended independent Claims 1, and 20-21 to substantially include the subject matter that was previously added to the remaining claims which rendered the allowance of such claims.

All of the independent claims are thus deemed allowable along with any claims depending therefrom. An allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. NVIDP036).

Respectfully submitted,



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